

Message Text

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S E C R E T USNATO 0748

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/82

TAGS/ PARM, NATO

SUBJ: COMMITTEE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATO ALERT SYSTEM

REFS: A. USNATO 0718; B: AC/290-N(73)1

SUMMARY: COMMITTEE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATO ALERT SYSTEM WILL MEET ON A TRAIL BASIS DURING EXERCISE HILEX-6 TO ASSIST THE DPC IN PROCESSING ALERT MEASURES. THIS MESSAGE PROVIDES BACKGROUND. END SUMMARY

1. REFTEL A REPORTED RECEIPT OF AGENDA AC/290-A(74)1 CALLING FOR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATO ALERT SYSTEM ON FEB 19.

2. ON OCT 10, 1972, THE DPC ENDORESED (DPC/D(72)16) A NUMBER OF CONCLUSIONS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT (DPC/D(72)21) BY THE COUNCIL OPERATIONS AND EXERCISE COMMITTEE (COEC) ON HILEX-5. ONE OF THESE CONCLUSIONS HIGHLIGHTED THE NEED FOR A SUB-COMMITTEE ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE DPC, TO MONITOR THE PROGRESS OF APPROVAL, DECLARATION, SECRET

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AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS (MNC'S) ALERT MEASURES. SPECIFICALLY, THE HILEX-5 REPORT NOTED "AN UNNECESSARILY LARGE AMOUNT OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE'S TIME WAS CONSUMED BY THE RELATIVELY MECHANICAL PROCESS OF ASCERTAINING EACH DELEGATION'S

POSITION ON THE DECLARATION OF INDIVIDUAL ALERT MEASURES." FURTHER, "TIME COULD BE SAVED IF THE STATEMENT OF NATIONAL POSITIONS ON REQUESTS FOR THE DECLARATION OF ALERT MEASURES COULD BE CARRIED OUT IN A SUB-COMMITTEE, LEAVING ONLY SIGNIFICANT OR CONTENTIOUS POINTS TO BE DEALT WITH IN THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE ITSELF."

3. THE COMMITTEE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATO ALERT SYSTEM WILL OPERATE ON A TRIAL BASIS DURING HILEX-6 UNDER DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE AS FOLLOWS:

"ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL/DPC IN TIMES OF TENSION OR DURING EXERCISES, TO MONITOR PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ALERT STATES, STAGES, AND MEASURES; AND, TO PERFORM OTHER RELATED TASKS WHICH THE COUNCIL/DPC MAY DELEGATE TO IT, WITH A VIEW TO EASING TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE THE BURDEN ON PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES."

4. MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIST OF THE CHAIRMAN (ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR DEFENSE PLANNING AND POLICY, MR. D.C. HUMPHREYS', DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (DIRECTOR FOR FORCE PLANNING IS, MR. R. BRABAND), NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES FROM EACH DELEGATION, TOGETHER WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE IS, THE OPERATIONS DIVISION IMS, SACLANTRP, AND POSSIBLY SHAPE.

5. IF, DURING HILEX-6, THE COMMITTEE IS ABLE TO PROVIDE MEANINGFUL ASSISTANCE TO THE DPC IN IMPLEMENTING THE NATO ALERT SYSTEM, THE COMMITTEE WILL BE FORMALIZED UNDER TERMS OF REFERENCE THAT WILL BE APPROVED BY THE DPC BASED UPON EXPERIENCE DURING HILEX-6.

6. MISSION INTENDS TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND WILL SEND ITS EVALUATION TO WASHINGTON FOLLOWING HILEX-6. MCAULIFFE

SECRET

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